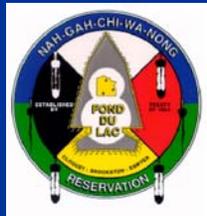


# Path to a NPS Program: Fond du Lac's Experience

Presented at Region 5 Tribal Nonpoint  
Source Workshop  
October 9-11, 2007



## Where to start....\$\$\$\$\$

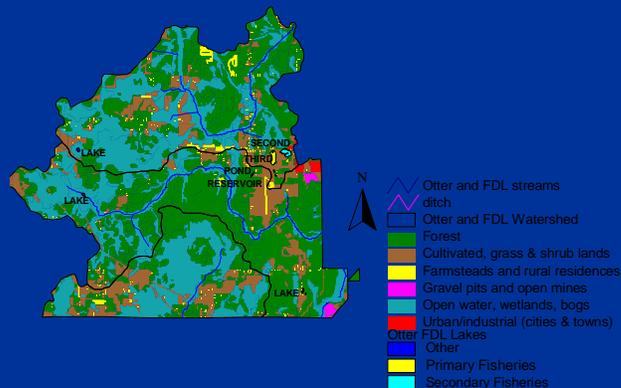
- Applied for Minnesota Clean Water Partnership grant (2002)
- Hired a consultant to assist us with pulling together pertinent info and data, facilitating meetings, and drafting the document
- Invited other agencies to participate in the assessment portion, and stay informed of our management plan and priorities

# Assessment Report

- Land use overview
- Description of forestry, development, transportation issues for the area
- Description of Water Resources
- Water Quality Assessment
  - Water Quality Standards
  - Existing Monitoring Program: double-duty data
  - General assessment of water resources

## Watershed Assessment (table does not include all findings)

Fond du Lac and Otter Creek Watershed



Name	Size/Length	Potential Pollutant/Source	Use Impaired	Severity of Impairment	Speculated Reasons
Fond du Lac Creek	6.57 miles	Sedimentation Nutrients	Aquatic life	Moderate	Hydromodification Urban (fragmentation, housing development) Roads*
Third Lake	14.5 acres	Nutrients Pathogens	Primary contact recreational, Aquatic life	Significant	Urban (noncompliant septics, livestock activity)

## Simian Creek Watershed Nonpoint Source Problem Areas

Name	Size/Length	Potential Pollutant/Source	Use Impaired	Severity of Impairment	Speculated Reasons
Simian Lake*	80.7 acres	<i>(Toxicants)</i>		<i>(Significant)</i>	<i>Mercury</i>
Pat Martin Lake*	35.5 acres	<i>(Toxicants)</i>		<i>(Significant)</i>	<i>Mercury</i>
Cedar Lake	59.1 acres	Sedimentation	Cultural (wild rice waters)	Moderate	Roads Hydromodification
West Twin Lake*	120.4 acres	Nutrients Pathogens Invasive species <i>(Toxicants)</i>	Primary contact recreational, Aquatic life	Non-detect <i>(Significant)</i>	Urban <i>Mercury</i>

## Management Plan Goals

- Prevent impacts to waters where the current impact severity level is non-detect, as indicated in the Assessment Report.
- Provide the most appropriate tools (e.g., education, land acquisition, and enforcement) to efficiently and effectively implement and maintain the BMPs.
- Restore waters that have been impaired by nonpoint source pollution.

## General Management Program

- Administration – Coordination, organization, management
- Assessment – maintenance and evaluation of data
- Monitoring – ongoing program; additional to assess success of best management practices
- Education – Provide information and promote voluntary corrective actions

## Specific Management Program: Forests

- Coordinate forest sale contracts
- Inventory forest roads and prioritize forest road projects
- Maintain forest roads under Band authority
- Build baseline forest inventory to track stands
- ATV policies
- Provide for ATV trails in appropriate locations; ban in sensitive areas
- Continue to facilitate moving lands into trust status with BIA
- Implement interagency policy on firefighting (flame retardants, water withdrawals)

## Roads

- Establish culvert inventory; maintenance and repair plan (prioritize according to watersheds)
- Address sedimentation and flooding at Stevens Road crossing; resolve land ownership issues
- Work with state, county, and local governments on policies/procedures to reduce pollutant loads from highways, roads and bridges
- IPM policy: suspend herbicide applications in road rights of way
- Investigate mitigation for Reservation Road culvert

## Urban

- Coordinate with city, counties, townships on erosion control, SWPPP, wetlands
- Coordinate review within tribal programs for development
- Work with shoreland property owners
- Monitor/assess impacts from auto salvage yards
- Coordinate wellhead protection with LGU's
- Assess mercury impacts due to urban runoff, land use, wetland storage
- Inventory ISTS on West Twin Lake
- Establish buffers on wetlands and waterways
- Address ISTS in Brookston
- Develop guidelines to prevent thermal impacts

## Hydromodification

- Develop and implement Stoney Brook Watershed Management Plan
- Targeted watershed study for Cedar Lake (wild rice decline)
- Survey outlet to Big Lake and verify hydrologic connections
- Set up framework for protection of pristine waterbodies
- Work with agencies to develop MOU for regulatory authority over judicial ditch system

## Invasive Species

- Provide education, signage, access controls across Reservation, specific to waterbody sensitivity to AIS
- Provide impediments through Moosehorn River culvert for introduction of AIS to Wild Rice Lake
- Work with DNR, Sea Grant to help provide education on AIS, including public service announcement

## 319 Eligibility

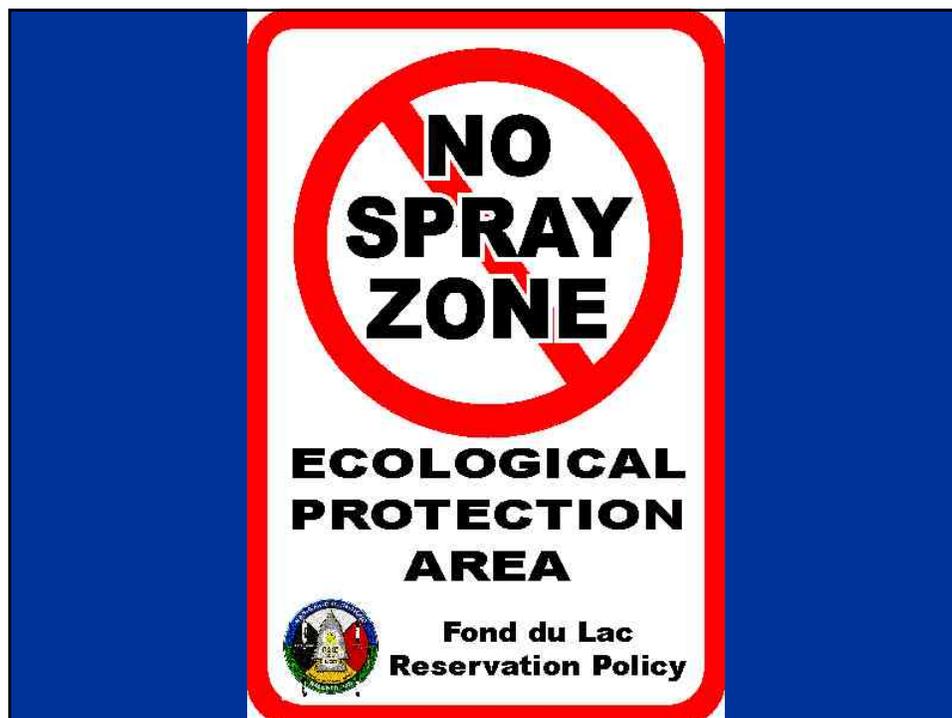
- Completed Nonpoint Source Assessment Report and Management Program, including public input and agency review
- Completed application for TAS, drawing heavily on preceding TAS applications
- Relatively quick turnaround: application submitted September 28, 2004; approval received December 21

## Opportunities

- Fond du Lac Planning Department was updating Land Use Plan; hired Zoning Administrator: FdL EP staff involved in land use map, buffers, policies, etc.
- Carlton County began county geologic atlas project (DNR, MNGS); partnered with county for portion of Reservation; second year included funding for St. Louis County portion

## Education/Outreach

- Significant component of 319 base program; first publication was completed last summer
- Presentation to local timber harvesters at a multi-agency forestry BMP workshop; advise them of Reservation forestry objectives
- Current project involves signage to discourage state/county highway crews from spraying herbicides
- Next year: shoreline management guidance



## Aquatic Invasive Species

- While this is one of our highest concerns, not on the EPA list of nonpoint sources
- Conducted workshop for FdL Resource Management Division staff: MN Sea Grant's Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point
- Plans to post signage at wild rice lake access points
- Negotiated policy with Interagency Firefighting group (water withdrawals)

## Hydromodification

- Unsuccessful in application for competitive project grant: Stoney Brook Watershed Study
- Continued with project: partnering with NRCS, USGS for technical support
- Opportunity for Fond du Lac college student as USGS intern
- Will draft Watershed Management Plan according to EPA guidelines: eligibility for future restoration projects (319, EQIP, etc.)

